

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Craig R. White

Serial No.: 09/727,094

Filed: November 30, 2000

Docket No.: 10003980-1

Title: PRINT PROCESSING SYSTEM AND METHOD

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 9, and 18 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a print job of a user, the system comprising:

a print processing system registry configured to have discrete print processing services of a plurality of discrete print processing providers registered therewith, the discrete print processing providers including a print job storage provider, a print job processing provider, a print job print provider, and a print job delivery provider, and the discrete print processing services including a storage capability of the print job storage provider to store a data file for the print job, a processing capability of the print job processing provider to process the data file for the print job, a printing capability of the print job print provider to print the print job, and a delivery capability of the print job delivery provider to deliver a completed print job to the user; and

a print job service provider configured to communicate with the print processing system registry and coordinate utilization of the discrete print processing services of the discrete print processing providers to fulfill the print job, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to receive a print request and the data file for the print job from the user and distribute the print request and the data file to the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, the print job print provider, and the print job delivery provider for the user based on the print request and which of the discrete print processing services are necessary for the print job.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the print processing system registry and the print job service provider are configured to communicate with the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, the print job print provider, and the print job delivery provider via a communication network, wherein the print processing system registry is adapted to receive the storage capability, the processing capability, the printing capability, and the delivery capability via the communication network, and wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print request and the data file to the print job

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storage provider, the print job processing provider, the print job print provider, and the print job delivery provider via the communication network.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to submit the print request and the data file for the print job to the print processing system registry for the user, wherein the print processing system registry is adapted to compare the print request for the print job with the storage capability, the processing capability, the printing capability, and the delivery capability and determine which of the storage capability, the processing capability, the printing capability, and the delivery capability is necessary for the print job, and wherein the print job service provider is adapted to automatically distribute, without interaction by the user, the print request and the data file for the print job to the print job storage provider if the storage capability is necessary for the print job, the print job processing provider if the processing capability is necessary for the print job, the print job print provider if the printing capability is necessary for the print job, and the print job delivery provider if the delivery capability is necessary for the print job.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the print job service provider is configured to communicate with the user via a communication network, and wherein the print job service provider is adapted to receive the print request and the data file for the print job from the user via the communication network.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to the print job storage provider, and wherein the print job storage provider is adapted to store the print job, the storage capability of the print job storage provider including a storage provider identification and at least one of a storage term and a storage cost.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to the print job processing provider, and wherein the print job processing provider is adapted to process the print job, the processing capability of the print job processing provider including a processing provider identification and at least one of

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a print job conversion capability, a print job translation capability, a print job enhancement capability, and a processing cost.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to the print job print provider, and wherein the print job print provider is adapted to print the print job, the printing capability of the print job print provider including a print provider identification and at least one of a file format compatibility, a print medium capability, a printing quality capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, and a printing cost.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the print job delivery provider is adapted to deliver the completed print job to the user, the delivery capability of the print job delivery provider including a delivery provider identification and at least one of a delivery option and a delivery cost.

9. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a print job of a user, the system comprising:

a print processing system registry configured to have discrete print processing services of a plurality of discrete print processing providers registered therewith, the discrete print processing providers including a print job storage provider, a print job processing provider, a print job print provider, and a print job delivery provider, and the discrete print processing services including a printing capability of the print job print provider to print the print job, a processing capability of the print job processing provider to process a data file for the print job, a storage capability of the print job storage provider to store the data file for the print job, and a delivery capability of the print job delivery provider to deliver a completed print job to the user; and

a print job service provider configured to communicate with the print processing system registry and coordinate utilization of the discrete print processing services of the discrete print processing providers to fulfill the print job.

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wherein the print job service provider is adapted to receive a print request and the data file for the print job from the user and submit the print request and the data file to the print processing system registry,

wherein the print processing system registry is adapted to determine which of the printing capability, the processing capability, the storage capability, and the delivery capability is necessary for the print job, and

wherein the print job service provider is adapted to automatically distribute, without interaction by the user, the print request and the data file for the print job to the print job print provider if the printing capability is necessary for the print job, the print job processing provider if the processing capability is necessary for the print job, the print job storage provider if the storage capability is necessary for the print job, and the print job delivery provider if the delivery capability is necessary for the print job.

10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to the print job print provider, and wherein the print job print provider is adapted to print the print job, the printing capability of the print job print provider including a print provider identification and at least one of a file format compatibility, a print medium capability, a printing quality capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, and a printing cost.

11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to the print job processing provider, and wherein the print job processing provider is adapted to process the print job, the processing capability of the print job processing provider including a processing provider identification and at least one of a print job conversion capability, a print job translation capability, a print job enhancement capability, and a processing cost.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the print job service provider is adapted to distribute the print job to the print job storage provider, and wherein the print job storage provider is adapted to store the print job, the storage capability of the print job

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storage provider including a storage provider identification and at least one of a storage term and a storage cost.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 10, wherein the print job delivery provider is adapted to deliver the completed print job to the user, the delivery capability of the print job delivery provider including a delivery provider identification and at least one of a delivery option and a delivery cost.

14-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) A method of processing a print job of a user, the method comprising:

providing a print processing system registry having discrete print processing services of a plurality of discrete print processing providers registered therewith, the discrete print processing providers including a print job storage provider, a print job processing provider, a print job print provider, and a print job delivery provider, and the discrete print processing services including a storage capability of the print job storage provider to store a data file for the print job, a processing capability of the print job processing provider to process the data file for the print job, a printing capability of the print job print provider to print the print job, and a delivery capability of the print job delivery provider to deliver a completed print job to the user;

defining a communication network linking a print job service provider and the print processing providers including the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, the print job print provider, and the print job delivery provider;

receiving a print request and the data file for the print job at the print job service provider from the user; and

with the print job service provider, coordinating utilization of the discrete print processing services of the discrete print processing providers to fulfill the print job, including distributing the print request and the data file to the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, the print job print provider, and the print job delivery provider for the

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user via the communication network based on the print request and which of the discrete print processing services are necessary for the print job.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein defining the communication network further includes linking the print processing system registry with the print job storage provider, the print job processing provider, the print job print provider, and the print job delivery provider, and further comprising:

registering the storage capability of the print job storage provider, the processing capability of the print job processing provider, the printing capability of the print job print provider, and the delivery capability of the print job delivery provider with the print processing system registry via the communication network.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein registering the storage capability of the print job storage provider includes registering a storage provider identification and at least one of a storage term and a storage cost.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein registering the processing capability of the print job processing provider includes registering a processing provider identification and at least one of a print job conversion capability, a print job translation capability, a print job enhancement capability, and a processing cost.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein registering the printing capability of the print job print provider includes registering a print provider identification and at least one of a file format compatibility, a print medium capability, a printing quality capability, a printing layout capability, a color printing capability, a finishing capability, and a printing cost.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein defining the communication network further includes linking the print job service provider with the print processing system registry, and further comprising:

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submitting the print request and the data file for the print job to the print processing system registry for the user via the communication network; and

comparing the print request for the print job with the storage capability of the print job storage provider, the processing capability of the print job processing provider, the printing capability of the print job print provider, and the delivery capability of the print job delivery provider.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein defining the communication network further includes linking the print job service provider with the user, and wherein receiving the print request and the data file for the print job includes receiving the print request and the data file at the print job service provider from the user via the communication network.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein distributing the print request and the data file includes distributing the print request and the data file to the print job storage provider, and further comprising:

storing the print request and the data file.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein distributing the print request and the data file includes distributing the print request and the data file to the print job processing provider, and further comprising:

processing the data file.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein distributing the print request and the data file includes distributing the print request and the data file to the print job print provider, and further comprising:

printing the print job.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein registering the delivery capability of the print job delivery provider includes registering a delivery provider identification and at least one of a delivery option and a delivery cost.

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29-38. (Cancelled)